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NECROLOGY

DR. JOHN H. ZAHM, C. S. C.

The death of Dr. Zahm at Munich, on Armistice Day, came as a distinct shock to religious and scientific circles in Washington. Dr. Zahm went to Europe some months ago in order to gather historical material regarding certain Near East problems, and was stricken down with pneumonia in Munich. Dr. Zahm had long been identified with the Catholic University of America, and in its early days, one of its most enthusiastic supporters. He was a prolific author and was noted chiefly for his explorations and books on South America. It was he who suggested that the late Colonel Theodore Roosevelt make his famous expedition to that continent and he accompanied Roosevelt. Father Zahm's account of his experiences on this expedition are given in "Through South America's Southlands." This volume had been preceded by "Up the Orinoco and Down the Magdalena," "Along the Andes and Down the Amazon," and "The Quest of El Dorado." These books form the nucleus of the greatest South American historical and commercial library in the United States, begun by Dr. Zahm at the University of Notre Dame.

Notable among Dr. Zahm's other books, which give an indication of his extensive travel and deep scientific interest are "Alaska, the Country of the People," "Evolution and Dogma," "Bible, Science and Faith," "Catholic Science and Catholic Doctrine," "Science and the Church," "Evolution and Teleology," "Women in Science," and "Great Inspirers."

Dr. Zahm was born in Lexington, Ohio, June 14, 1851, and joined the Congregation of the Holy Cross in 1871, being ordained in 1875. He devoted much time to science and was given charge of the scientific department of the university, later becoming vice-president. In 1897 he was made provincial of the Congregation and at his initiative Columbia College was founded at Portland, Ore., and Holy Cross College was established at Brookland, D. C., the latter being one of the first religious colleges at the Catholic University.

Travels in Europe brought Dr. Zahm the friendship of Pasteur, Metchnikoff and the learned Leo XIII, who made him a Ph. D. in 1895. He was a member of the Société Française de Physique of Paris, the Société Scientifique of Brussels, the Arcadia in Rome and the Dante Society in Florence. His collection of Dante is one of the chief literary and artistic treasures of the University of Notre Dame, including first editions, autograph copies, translations and commentaries, to the number of nearly six thousand.

DR. JOHN J. GRIFFIN

The death of Dr. Griffin, which occurred at Baltimore on November 16, is far more than a personal loss to his many friends and former pupils who sincerely loved him; it is a loss to the Catholic educational world. He was considered one of the bright lights in the teaching of chemistry in this

country—not only a scholar but a professor who possessed in a rare degree the ability to interest his pupils.

Dr. Griffin was born in Corning, N. Y., June 24, 1859. He made his ecclesiastical studies at Ottawa Seminary, Canada, and was ordained in 1885. Shortly after his ordination he was appointed instructor in chemistry at St. Thomas Aquinas' College at Cambridge. He remained there until 1887. He was professor of chemistry at Ottawa University, 1887 to 1890.

Dr. Griffin took up post-graduate work at Johns Hopkins University in 1891 and received his Doctor of Philosophy degree from that university in 1895. That year he was appointed professor of chemistry at the Catholic University and became dean of the faculty in 1900.

Dr. Griffin became a professor at Notre Dame while he was a student at Johns Hopkins. For many years he spent the week ends at the Govans college. His sister, Miss Mary Griffin, of Mount Vernon, N. Y., was with him when death came. Dr. Griffin had been critically ill for seven weeks. He had been in poor health a long time.

RT. REV. WILLIAM H. KETCHAM

The sudden death on Monday, November 14, of the Right Rev. William H. Ketcham is a distinct loss to the Indian Missions of this country. The officials of the Interior Department, Washington, had come to esteem Monsignor Ketcham, for there was that charm to his person which made them feel that here was a man whose every effort in behalf of the Indians was inspired and prompted by the purest charity. As a consequence, seldom, if ever, were his requests denied.

Monsignor Ketcham loved his Indian children, not because he pitied their condition, but because he found them truly noble characters, as faithful to their friends as they were fearless in battle. Because they were children of God and members of the Catholic Church, Monsignor Ketcham spent himself for the Indians. Many were the touching stories he used to relate of their fidelity to the practice of religion. The Indians on their part loved and revered Monsignor Ketcham, in whom they reposed the most absolute confidence. Mediator between them and their Heavenly Father, mediator between them and the Great White Father at Washington, this black-robe priest of God was one man who never betrayed them, that did not speak with a forked tongue. True Soldier of Christ, fitting indeed was it that when the summons came he was to be found far from the comforts of home, ministering to his Indian children of Mississippi.
